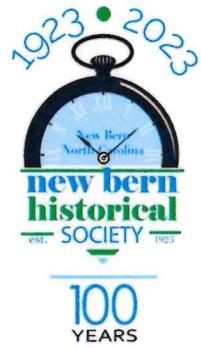


March 20, 2025

Representative Edward C. Goodwin
North Carolina General Assembly
Legislative Building
16 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27601



Subject: Letter of Support for the Recognition of the Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories

Dear Representative Goodwin,

On behalf of the New Bern Historical Society, I write to express our full support for the official recognition of the Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories. As stewards of our region's rich and diverse history, we recognize the vital role the Tuscarora people have played in shaping the cultural and historical landscape of North Carolina.

The Tuscarora Nation has a long and profound connection to this land, dating back centuries before European contact. Despite facing significant displacement and hardships throughout history, the Tuscarora people have persevered, maintaining their cultural traditions, governance, and community structures. The recognition of the Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories is not only a matter of historical accuracy but also a necessary step toward acknowledging the sovereignty and resilience of this Indigenous community.

New Bern, as the former capital of North Carolina and a site of significant historical interactions between European settlers and the Tuscarora Nation, bears a deep responsibility in supporting this recognition. We believe that the acknowledgment of the Tuscarora people by the state will contribute to a more inclusive historical narrative and foster greater respect for the Indigenous heritage of our region.

We urge the North Carolina General Assembly to take all necessary steps to grant official state recognition to the Tuscarora Indians of Kahtenuaka Territories. Such a measure will affirm North Carolina's commitment to justice, cultural preservation, and the rightful acknowledgment of its Indigenous peoples.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important matter. We would welcome any opportunity to discuss this further and to provide historical documentation that may support this recognition. Please feel free to contact us at director@newbernhistorical.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "AG".

Anthony Giardino
Executive Director
New Bern Historical Society

We bring history to life!